



CITY of BEAVERTON

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

POOCHES ON THE GREEN TO FEATURE BEAVERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT K9 UNIT

- Five Police Dogs and Their Handlers to Demonstrate Abilities, Meet with Participants -

BEAVERTON, Oregon (March 8, 2010) – A highlight to this year's Pooches on the Green is a special demonstration from the City's own Beaverton Police Department K9 Unit. German Shepherds Watson, Jago, Barak, Alex and Kahz will be on hand to celebrate St. Paw-trick's Day and show participants how they take a bite out of crime.

"These talented dogs are always very popular and this year we'll have the whole team on hand to meet the community and demonstrate their skills," said Mayor Denny Doyle. "The K9 unit is part of the team that keeps our community safe and it will be a pleasure to see them at the event."

All five K9 Unit dogs, one narcotics and four patrol, along with their handlers will participate in an hour-long demonstration highlighting their extraordinary abilities. The dogs will participate in a rigorous obedience exercise, demonstrate suspect apprehension, locate hidden individuals and protect their officer from a staged attack. Following the demonstration, the public will have an opportunity to meet the stars of the show, ask questions and get autographs from the officers.

Police dogs are chosen for their ability to detect and locate persons, property and evidence. The K9 unit saves the Beaverton Police Department hundreds of work hours per year as they back up officers during alarm calls, building searches and locating lost or missing persons. Those who attend the K-9 demonstration will gain insight into how police dogs are trained and how K-9 teams provide valuable services to the community.

ABOUT POOCHES ON THE GREEN

The City of Beaverton's second annual Pooches on the Green event will be held on Saturday, March 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in **City Park** (5th Street and Hall Boulevard). This year's event will feature the Sir James McDonald Pipe Band, Murray School of Irish Dancing and contests including best dressed, look-a-like, best kisser, best silly trick and face only a mother could love. Prizes for the winners have been donated by Nature's Pet.

Pooches on the Green is presented by the City of Beaverton and sponsored by KUIK (1360 AM), Nature's Pet and NW Natural. Special thanks to Beaverton Arts Commission, Beaverton Police Department, *The Beaverton Valley Times*, City of Beaverton Emergency Management, Green Dog Cleaning Company and Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District.

Booths will be hosted by Aloha Costco Wholesale, Aussie Rescue & Placement Helpline, Inc., Cornell Center Animal Hospital, Delta Society, Dove Lewis, Fido's City Guide, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Oregon Humane Society, PetUtopia and Washington County Animal Control.

Pooches on the Green will take place rain or shine. For more information, please visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Pooches or call Erin Hickey, Events Program Coordinator, at (503) 350-4088.

STREET CLOSURES

To ensure the safety of pedestrians and animals during the event, SW 5th Street between SW Hall Boulevard and SW Watson Avenue will be closed from 10:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 20. Westbound 5th Street traffic will be diverted south on SW Tucker Avenue and northbound Hall Boulevard traffic will be diverted eastbound at SW 5th Street.

BEAVERTON CARES

The Beaverton Cares awareness program will be collecting pet food and supplies for dogs in need during the event. Many items are needed urgently including wet and dry food, shampoo, new collars, new nylon or leather leashes, stainless steel feeding bowls, nail clippers and chew toys. For a complete list of needed items or for more information about the Beaverton Cares awareness program, please contact Lani Parr at (503) 526-2243 or visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov/BeavertonCares.

ABOUT BEAVERTON

Beaverton was recently named the **safest city in the Northwest** for the third consecutive year. Among other accolades, Beaverton was also lauded as one of the **Best Places to Raise Kids in America by BusinessWeek** magazine, one of the **Top 100 Best Places to Live in America by Money** magazine, an **All-America City finalist in 2005**, is recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency as a **Green Power Community** and is designated as a **Bronze Award Bicycle Friendly Community** by the League of American Bicyclists. Beaverton also enjoys the most diverse population (by percentage of population) among Oregon cities.

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